## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE PCT NATIONAL STAGE APPLICATION OF AUER ET AL.

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Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-referenced patent application, please enter the following preliminary amendments.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.